

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists

March 21, 2019, Ongwanada, 7:30 p.m.

1. **Opening Remarks:** The meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by Past President Alexandra Simmons. She explained that the President and Vice-President are away birding in Columbia. She thanked Marlene and Ray Rothenbury for providing the evening's treats. The mystery bird was identified as a White Winged Dove, seen at Sandhurst Shores in March 2017 and considered to be rare in the Kingston Region.
2. **Review of Minutes of Meeting held February 21, 2019.**
Moved by Jacqueline Bartnik, seconded by Janet Elliott that the minutes be accepted. Carried
3. **Member's Observations**
 - Jacqueline Bartnik alerted everybody to the Field Trip on Sunday, March 24 to the Cataraqui River and Inner Harbour. Details are in the April Newsletter.
 - Anne Robertson saw a Trumpeter Swan at the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary on Saturday and a Red Shouldered Hawk at 2nd Depot Lake during the Ramble on Tuesday.
 - Steve Manders saw the last Snowy Owl on Wolfe Island on Tuesday. There are still Trumpeter and Mute Swans on the Rideau system.
 - Ken Robertson said the Snowy Owl was still on Wolfe Island on Wednesday when the North Leeds Birders were there. They also saw several Killdeer, an Eastern Meadowlark and Turkey Vultures.
 - Ray Rothenbury has Red Wing Blackbirds and Robins in his yard and yesterday had 7 Sandhill Cranes fly over.
 - Peter Waycik had a Fisher cross the road twice in front of him on Howe Island. He has been receiving daily visits from about 2 dozen Evening Grosbeaks at his feeders on the island.
 - Rose-Marie Burke, who lives near Glenburnie has seen Turkey Vultures, Redpolls, a Great Blue Heron and a Merlin near her property. She reported one Killdeer as well.
4. **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee is currently calling for nominations to the 2019-2020 KFN executive. Suggestions and expressions of interest are welcomed by:

 - Alexandra (Sandra) Simmons: 613-389-1044 simbat@bell.net
 - Janis Grant: 613-548-3668 janis.grant@iCloud.com
 - Paul Mackenzie: 613-547-5748 mackenzp@queensu.ca
5. **Upcoming Events**
 - Please see the Newsletter for details of upcoming Field Trips and Rambles.
 - The May Dinner this year is celebrating KFN's 70th birthday at the Kingston Yacht Club on May 16. Guest Speaker Ron Weir will give a talk on Owls.

Tickets at \$50 are available from Polly Aiken whose contact information is in the Newsletter. Polly will also sell tickets at the April AGM.

- The Hastings Stewardship Council is featuring a talk on backyard birds by Doug MacRae, who works at the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory. The event will take place at Ivanhoe, Ontario on March 28 from 7 to 9 pm.

6. Feature Presentation

Erwin Batalla introduced guest speaker Bob Montgomerie, Professor of Evolutionary Biology at Queen's University.

Dr. Montgomerie gave an interesting talk on

Our Enduring Fascination With Birds' Eggs

Alexandra Simmons thanked him and presented him with a copy of *Birds of the Kingston Region*.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. There were 70 members in attendance.